

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## GYPSUM IN FEBRUARY 2006

Producers mined 1.49 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in February 2006 (table 1). Output was 6% less than that of January 2006 and 16% more than that of February 2005. Synthetic gypsum production was 778,000 metric tons (t) in February 2006 (table 1), which was slightly more than that of January 2006, and 13% more than that of February 2005. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the largest domestic consumer of gypsum. During January 2006 synthetic gypsum accounted for 0.761 Mt, or about 23%, of the 3.33-Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 475,000 t (table 2), 10% more than that of January 2006 and 11% more than that of February 2005.

Output of calcined gypsum for February 2006 (table 1) was 1.96 Mt, 11% less than that of January 2006 and 10% more than that of February 2005. Sales of board products were about 2.9

billion square feet (271 million square meters), 6% less than that of January 2006 and 9% more than that of February 2005.

U.S. Government import and export data for February 2006 were not available at the time of publication. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in January 2006 were 997,000 t (table 3), 4% less than that of December 2005 and 29% more than that of January 2005. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Canada, for January 2006 were 86,000 t, equivalent to 103 million square feet (9.6 million square meters). These imports were 32% more than that of December 2005 and 76% more than that of January 2005. Wallboard exports to 35 countries and territories in January 2006 were 8,500 t, equivalent to 10.2 million square feet (946,000 square meters). These exports were 2% more than that of December 2005 and 37% more than that of January 2005.

All percentages in this report were computed based on unrounded data.

TABLE 1  
GYPSUM SUPPLY<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons)

	2006			2005
	February	January	January-February	January-February
Crude:				
Mined <sup>3</sup>	1,490,000	1,590,000	3,080,000	2,470,000
Imported <sup>4</sup>	NA	997,000	NA	1,530,000
Synthetic gypsum <sup>5</sup>	778,000	761,000	1,540,000	1,420,000
Total supply	NA	3,350,000	NA	5,420,000
Crude, exported <sup>4</sup>	NA	14,200	NA	30,300
Consumption	NA	3,330,000	NA	5,380,000
Calcined:				
Produced	1,960,000	2,190,000	4,160,000	3,630,000
Imported <sup>6</sup>	NA	466	NA	908
Total supply	NA	2,190,000	NA	3,630,000
Exported <sup>6</sup>	NA	15,000	NA	25,700
Consumption	NA	2,180,000	NA	3,610,000

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

<sup>4</sup>Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

<sup>5</sup>Reported production only.

<sup>6</sup>Import and export data are for "Plaster," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.20.0000.

TABLE 2  
GYPSUM SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS, BY USE<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2006			2005
	February	January	January-February	January-February
Uncalcined: <sup>3</sup>				
Portland cement	281,000	240,000	522,000	451,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	194,000	192,000	386,000	395,000
Total	475,000	432,000	905,000	845,000
Calcined:				
Board products <sup>4</sup>	2,430,000	2,590,000	5,020,000	4,460,000
Plaster	11,300	12,000	23,300	25,100
Total	2,450,000	2,600,000	5,050,000	4,490,000
Board products: (Thousand square feet) <sup>5</sup>				
Regular board	1,810,000	1,910,000	3,720,000	3,330,000
Type X board	851,000	915,000	1,770,000	25,100
Other	264,000	280,000	543,000	492,000
Total supply	2,920,000	3,110,000	6,030,000	5,350,000

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

<sup>4</sup>Includes weight of paper and other materials.

<sup>5</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3  
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2006	2005	
	January	December	January
Brazil	1	17,000	--
Canada	686,000	750,000	533,000
Dominican Republic	9,300	5,010	--
France	954	--	--
Germany	--	--	40
Mexico	257,000	218,000	194,000
Morocco	--	1	--
Peru	--	--	79
Spain	43,600	45,800	42,500
Total	997,000	1,040,000	770,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4  
CRUDE GYPSUM IN THE UNITED STATES<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Consumption <sup>3</sup>	Production <sup>4</sup>	Imports <sup>5</sup>	Exports <sup>5</sup>
2004:				
December	2,420	1,480	958	14
January-December	26,900	16,900	10,100	149
2005:				
January	2,220	1,460	770	14
February	2,190	1,460	755	17
March	2,400	1,470	964	27
April	2,320	1,420	909	12
May	2,800	1,820	994	11
June	2,580	1,620	972	10
July	2,500	1,590	923	9
August	2,550	1,630	926	12
September	2,890	1,680	1,230	18
October	2,550	1,720	848	14
November	2,400	1,550	863	17
December	2,840	1,820	1,040	14
January-December	30,200	19,200	11,200	189
2006:				
January	2,580	1,590	997	14
February	NA	1,490	NA	NA

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes synthetic gypsum.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

<sup>3</sup>Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting the exports shown in this table. Monthly inventory changes are not included.

<sup>4</sup>Production data are from the semiannual gypsum canvasses of the non-wallboard producers, annual canvass of all producers, and from monthly data furnished by the Gypsum Association from the wallboard producers.

<sup>5</sup>Data from U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5  
SALES OF GYPSUM BOARD PRODUCTS, BY SALES REGIONS<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand square feet)<sup>3</sup>

	New England	Middle Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	E. South Central	W. South Central	Mountain	Pacific	Exports	Total
2006:											
February:											
Veneer base	23,200	2,540	6,660	869	7,860	23	40	238	1,480	3	42,900
Sheathing	1,350	3,540	4,390	5,200	15,400	3,080	9,000	7,640	9,070	2,350	61,000
Regular gypsum board	40,000	138,000	202,000	107,000	535,000	134,000	240,000	190,000	189,000	32,200	1,810,000
Type X gypsum board	25,600	81,700	114,000	61,900	138,000	33,400	96,400	117,000	176,000	7,310	851,000
Predecorated board	202	587	832	435	1,070	450	984	434	653	19	5,660
5/16 Mobile home board	--	538	2,240	--	10,700	14,100	3,860	79	187	--	31,700
Water/moisture resistant board	5,310	21,800	13,800	6,640	27,100	6,700	11,700	10,400	14,800	4,250	122,000
Total	95,600	248,000	344,000	182,000	735,000	192,000	362,000	326,000	391,000	46,100	2,920,000
January-February:											
Veneer base	45,400	5,060	14,600	1,530	16,300	31	57	624	2,820	141	86,600
Sheathing	2,560	7,490	9,880	11,500	30,900	6,080	21,300	14,300	18,900	3,910	127,000
Regular gypsum board	80,600	282,000	416,000	224,000	1,090,000	286,000	495,000	383,000	390,000	67,800	3,720,000
Type X gypsum board	54,600	174,000	231,000	131,000	296,000	71,900	198,000	236,000	361,000	13,700	1,770,000
Predecorated board	396	1,390	1,690	978	2,440	746	1,820	806	1,250	66	11,600
5/16 Mobile home board	--	857	4,990	--	21,700	28,300	10,900	257	796	--	67,800
Water/moisture resistant board	10,100	42,000	28,700	13,200	57,100	13,000	25,000	21,600	31,200	8,630	251,000
Total	194,000	513,000	707,000	382,000	1,520,000	406,000	752,000	657,000	805,000	94,200	6,030,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Sales region equivalent to U.S. Census Bureau Geographic Division as follows: New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT); Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA); East North Central (IL, IN, MI, OH, WI); West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD); South Atlantic (DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV); East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN); West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX); Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY); Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA).

<sup>3</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

Source: Gypsum Association.